

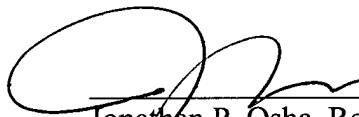
**REMARKS**

Applicant elects Invention 1, on which claims 1-9 read, without traverse for continued prosecution. Non-elected claims will be canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer, in due course.

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 17073/004001).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 12/16/04



Jonathan P. Osha, Reg. No. 33,986  
OSHA & MAY L.L.P.  
One Houston Center, Suite 2800  
1221 McKinney Street  
Houston, TX 77010  
Telephone: (713) 228-8600  
Facsimile: (713) 228-8778